

October 3, 2019

The Honorable Duane Peters **Brazos County Judge Brazos County Courthouse** 200 S Texas Ave Ste. 332 Bryan, TX 77803-3999

Dear Judge Peters:

We have received notice from the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture that your county has been designated eligible to apply for low-interest emergency disaster loans based on damages and losses caused by excessive moisture and flooding occurring September 1, 2019 and continuing. Thirteen Texas counties have been declared primary natural disaster areas. There are an additional forty-five other Texas counties designated as a contiguous counties.

The Secretary has notified the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to immediately make emergency loans available to eligible applicants in your county. Your local FSA office will have the details on this program.

In addition, the Small Business Administration (SBA), in an agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), provides low-interest federal disaster loans to eligible small businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers in counties that have received a disaster declaration from the Secretary of Agriculture.

I have enclosed a copy of the information provided by the USDA. If you have any guestions, please call Debra Rivier-Harris at (512) 424-7835.

Sincerely.

W. Nim Kidd, MPA, CEM®

Chief – Texas Division of Emergency Management Vice Chancellor for Disaster and Emergency Services

Texas A&M University System

WNK:drh **ENCLOSURES**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Texas State FSA Office 2405 Texas Avenue South College Station, TX 77840 **TX NOTICE FLP-1214**

3-FLP (Rev. 2)

FOR: County Offices

Approved by: Acting State Executive Director

1 Overview

A Background

On September 6, 2019, the Secretary of Agriculture designated 13 Texas counties as primary natural disaster areas. This action is based on damages and losses caused by excessive moisture and flooding occurring September 1, 2018 and continuing. The primary counties are:

Armstrong	Bowie	Burleson	Collin	Ellis	Fannin	Floyd
Grayson	Hunt	Jackson	Lipscomb	Matagorda	Red River	

In addition to the above **counties**, **45 other Texas counties** are named as **contiguous** where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance, pursuant to section 321 (a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act. Those counties are:

Brazoria Cooke Franklin	Brazos Crosby Gray	Briscoe Dallas Hale	Calhoun Delta Hemphill	Carson Denton Henderson	Cass Dickens Hill	Colorado Donley Hopkins
Johnson	Kaufman	Lamar	Lavaca	Lee	Lubbock	Milam
Morris	Motley	Navarro	Ochiltree	Potter	Rains	Randall
Roberts	Robertson	Rockwall	Swisher	Tarrant	Titus	Van Zandt
Victoria	Washington	Wharton				

Also, in accordance with section 321 (a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, counties in an adjacent State that are contiguous to one or more of the designated **Texas counties**, are named as contiguous counties where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM loan assistance. For this designation, the affected States and counties are:

Disposal Date		Distribution (6-RMH/09/16/2019)		
September 30	0, 2020	County Offices		
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Arkansas (2) Little River Miller

Oklahoma (7) Beaver Bryan Choctaw Ellis Love McCurtain Marshall

designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous

This designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

B Application Deadline

EM Loan applications will be received through May 6, 2020 for production and physical losses.

2 Action

A Exceptions for Application Deadlines

County Offices shall thoroughly review Exhibit 1.

B Determining Security Values

For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **September 1**, 2018.

C District Director's and Farm Loan Manager's Responsibilities

District Directors and Farm Loan Managers shall follow instructions according to 3-FLP (Rev. 2), and FmHA Instruction 1945-A for emergency loan applicability.

The Farm Loan Manager shall notify borrowers of Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) availability in accordance with handbook 5-FLP paragraph 42.

D Public Announcements

Special emphasis will be placed on informing the farm community through public announcements and arranging and conducting meetings with local Agricultural lenders and leaders.

3 Contact Point

A Inquires

If there are questions concerning this notice, contact the Conservation or Farm Loan Program Division.

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Subject: Secretarial Disaster Declaration S4534

Please carefully review the notice listing the primary and contiguous counties determined eligible by the Secretary and the Emergency Preparedness and Programs Branch for emergency (EM) loans effective **September 6, 2019.**

This declaration is coded **S4534**, and EM loan applications will be received through **May 16**, **2020**. For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incidence period is **September 1**, **2018**.

Please proceed to take the appropriate notification and coordination actions required by Handbook 1-DIS and 7CFR part 759.

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